

The Bankruptcy Code's central purpose is to provide a fresh start to the "honest but unfortunate debtor." These debtors are not honest, unfortunate, innocent, or peaceful protestors: They owe fines because of their threats and acts of violence against doctors, clinic staff, and women.

The problem is widespread. Since 1977, there have been over 75,000 acts of violence and/or disruption at the Nation's clinics.

This includes: 7 murders; 17 attempted murders; 41 bombings; 165 arsons; 82 additional failed bombing and arson attempts; 370 physical invasions of personal and business properties; 942 acts of vandalism; 100 butyric acid attacks; 557 anthrax threats, of which 480 happened since September 11, 2001; 122 assaults; 343 death threats; and 3 kidnappings.

Bankruptcy reform is critically important, but without this provision, we will be sending a message to perpetrators of health clinic violence that they can continue to trample on the rights of American women and use violence to do so.

Without this provision, if someone injures or kills someone outside an abortion clinic, they can file for bankruptcy and avoid paying any judgements made against them.

In other words, they are not held financially responsible for violating the law. We must stop these people from violating the law and we must stop them from finding shelter in bankruptcy.

It is for this reason that I cannot vote for this bill.

TRIBUTE TO JIM GRAY

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 2003

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, on March 12, 2003, Jim Gray, a member of my constituency, was honored with Tennessee's highest artistic award. The Tennessee Arts Commission presented Jim with the Distinguished Artist Award as a part of the 2003 Governor's Awards in the Arts in Nashville, TN.

Jim's artistic drive has been with him his entire life, and he used his talents to guide his career as a young adult as an illustrator, an advertising executive, and as a technical illustrator in the United States Air Force.

After a visit with his family to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in 1966, Jim found an artistic inspiration that he had never felt before. This inspiration led him to move to east Tennessee, where his desire to paint the beauty of the Tennessee countryside became his passion.

Throughout the years, Jim has sold more than 2,000 paintings and 125,000 prints to collectors in the United States and abroad. He has won several other awards, has been commissioned to do many major works, and has held workshops where he has instructed hundreds of students. His two sculptures of President Andrew Johnson are on display at Johnson's hometown of Greeneville, TN and at the Tennessee State Capitol Building in Nashville. Most recently, Jim's painting titled "Rising Above" was purchased as part of the Knoxville Convention Center art collection.

I am proud to display one of Jim's paintings in the entrance of my Washington, D.C. office.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the readers of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and my fellow colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Jim Gray for his achievements. On April 4th of this year, Jim will again be honored at a reception at the Knoxville Museum of Art, and a copy of this congratulatory statement will be presented to him. I also include here today an article written about Jim from the Knoxville News-Sentinel.

Jim's art continues to be an inspiration to us all and I am pleased today to speak on his behalf.

STATE HONORS 2 OF ITS GREATEST GRACE NOTES

DOLLY PARTON, ARTIST JIM GRAY WIN TENNESSEE'S HIGHEST AWARD FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN ARTS

(By Terry Morrow)

NASHVILLE, Mar. 12, 2003.—A couple of hundred miles away from their beloved Smoky Mountains, singer Dolly Parton and artist Jim Gray found common ground Tuesday night on the stage of Ryman Auditorium.

It was there that the Tennessee Arts Commission paid tribute to them with the 2003 Governor's Awards in the Arts, the state's highest artistic honor. Parton received the Lifetime Achievement Award for numerous musical, educational and thespian achievements. Gray was recognized with a Distinguished Artist Award for his maritime paintings and his part in helping to create the artists' community in Gatlinburg.

Eleven people and three organizations from across the state were honored at the ceremony. Parton, a Nashville resident, and Gray, who lives in Knoxville, attended as did Gov. Phil Bredesen and other state dignitaries, including David Willard, director of Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, Knox County Commissioner Mary Lou Horner, Randy Tyree and Ted Miller, vice president of Dollywood.

Speaking at the ceremony, Bredesen, who is a painter, said the arts should be able to weather the state's current budget crisis.

Parton was cited not only for her many musical hits but for her educational pursuits in Sevier County. In her native county, Parton boosted the already thriving economy in Pigeon Forge when she retooled Silver Dollar City into Dollywood in the mid-1980s. She later created the Dollywood Foundation and the Imagination Library, which encourages children to read.

"This is called a Lifetime Achievement Award, but I ain't done yet," Parton said, indicating she was working with Bredesen to extend her Imagination Library beyond East Tennessee. Addressing the fact that the award was a "lifetime" award, Parton said, "That makes you feel old. I don't feel old. I don't look that old. As long as I have those surgeons in California, I won't look that old."

In a tribute to Parton, the Peasall sisters sang Parton's hit that many consider her autobiographical single, "Coat of Many Colors." The sisters, who are from Whitehouse, were part of the "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" soundtrack and appeared in the film.

Others receiving the Distinguished Artist Award were Chattanooga musician Roland Carter and Memphis sculptor Luther Hampton. Ralph Blizzard, a legendary old-time fiddler from Blountville, won the Folk Heritage Award.

Parton and Gray were noted for their particular contributions in East Tennessee. Many of Parton's songs are based on her East Tennessee childhood. Gray's work often includes majestic scenes of the Great Smoky Mountains. Moving from Mobile, Ala., in 1966 to Gatlinburg, Gray aided in creating the city's arts and crafts community.

Thanking his wife Fran, his three children and seven grandchildren, Gray said, "What an honor. It's very emotional for me. How can it get any better than this?"

Parton and Gray have worked together before. A bronze statue of Parton, created by Gray in 1987, sits in front of the Sevier County Courthouse in Sevierville. Thousands of tourists stop to see the 2-ton, life-size structure each year.

"At 70, I've been blessed all these years doing what I have loved the best," Gray said. "I have been working full-time in fine arts since 1966. As far as I am concerned, this is icing on the cake, and it has been a wonderful cake I have enjoyed."

Knoxville will honor Gray with a reception Thursday, April 3, at the Knoxville Museum of Art. In addition to celebrating the Governor's Award, the Jim Gray painting "Rising Above" will be on display, and Mayor Victor Ashe will announce that the painting has been purchased as part of the Knoxville Convention Center art collection. The reception is open to the public. Anyone interested in receiving an invitation to attend should contact the Arts and Cultural Alliance, 865-523-7543.

TRIBUTE TO ROSSANA ROSADO, PUBLISHER EL DIARIO-LA PRENSA

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 2003

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to pay tribute to Mrs. Rossana Rosado, Publisher and CEO of the El Diario-La Prensa who will be honored on Thursday, March 20, 2003, on the 90th anniversary of the newspaper, the oldest Spanish-language daily in the United States. I regret that I am unable to join her and her colleagues for the 18th Annual National Association of Hispanic Publications (NAHP) Convention and luncheon in Las Vegas. I would very much have enjoyed celebrating this well-deserved recognition with her.

For 90 years, El Diario-La Prensa has been instrumental to the Hispanic community in the Northeast, providing the Hispanic community in the United States a vehicle of communication within itself, which has contributed to its development and strengthening and empowered Hispanics to attain significant achievements in the political, economic and social arena. Furthermore, for nine decades, El Diario-La Prensa has informed our Latino community, serving as an ever present link between them and their families and friends in their countries of origin in Latin America and the Caribbean, during times of political turmoil and times of stability, times of success as well as times of economic downturn, joyous occasions or sad times.

Mr. Speaker, good writing is indeed an art. From 1995 to 1999, Ms. Rosado was responsible for the newsroom operations as El Diario's Editor in Chief, becoming the first Latina and one of just a few women in this country to hold this important position at a major newspaper. Her writing, eloquent and to the point, has won the attention and admiration of El Diario-La Prensa readers like me. I commend her for her ability to bring style to provocative and powerful commentary. Editorials that grab the reader with candid and passionate writing about politics and other issues affecting New York City communities deserve recognition.